

1) 99 North Fairfax Street, Suite 400 Alexandria, VA 22314 (703) 519-6430 Fax (703) 519-6431 www.njcaweb.org

April 18, 2003

The Honorable Bill Nelson United States Senate 716 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Nelson:

It is our great pleasure to inform you that you have been selected as the National Job Corps Association's (NJCA) 2003 Policymaker of the Year. We very much hope that you will be able to join more than 900 members of the Job Corps community on the evening of Wednesday, July 23, 2002 to receive your award.

We are grateful that, in your very first year as a United States Senator, you recognized the value of Job Corps for young people, communities and employers. Your passion and tenacity, working with House and Senate appropriators, led to a new round of expansion in the fiscal year 2002 budget. When the possibility of budget cuts to Job Corps emerged late in the fiscal year 2003 process, you included Job Corps in the Senate floor amendment to add job training funds. Thanks to you, thousands of youth across the country and in Central Florida who would not have been able to attend Job Corps will be given a second chance to turn their lives around by attending a new Job Corps center.

The Policymaker of the Year award will be presented at the NJCA Alpha Awards dinner at the Hyatt Regency on Capitol Hill. The Hyatt is located at 400 New Jersey Avenue, NW. We hope that you will be able to receive your award in person, and will gladly work with your office to accommodate your schedule in any way that might make it possible for you attend. In preparation for the Alpha Awards, the NJCA is preparing a three-minute video presentation on your contribution to Job Corps. We hope to coordinate with your office to obtain footage to use in the video.

On behalf of the 70,000 youth who attend Job Corps every year, we thank you again for your leadership and your dedication to improving lives of America's most economically vulnerable young people.

Sincerely,

Richard F. Schubert

Chair

William F. Goodling

Vice Chair